NEW YORK HERALD.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT. EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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ADVENTISEMENTS consume every day; advertisements in period in the WEERLY HERALD, FAMILY HERALD, and it the California and European Editions.

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AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

RECADWAY THEATRE, Broadway. - Afterbook and broking - Equestrianism - Gymnastics - St. George and this

BOWERT THRATEE, Bowery,-ALARIC-PO CA-HON-TAS-

PUBLICA'S NEW THEATHE, Broadway-Much Add WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway .- MERCHANT OF VE

LAURA REENE'S THRATER, No 624 Broadway - After moon-for American Copsin, in Aid of the Moust Ver for Ford. Evening-Gue American Cousin-Loan of a Lover.

BARNUW'S AMERICAN MUSEUM, Broadway - After Bood and evenion, May Day Sports-Stage Stuck Yanker-Curio and His Fronces.

WOOD'S MINSTREL BUILDING, 561 and 563 Broadway-Etriopian Songs, Dances &c.—Southern Life Illustrates

MECHANICS' HALL, 47 Broadway-Beyanta' MINSTREL

CAMPURIL'S MINSTRELS, 44 Broadway. - Ethiopia: Characteristics, Songs, &c. - The There Rivals. New York, Wednesday, December 29, 1858.

The News.

The steamship Empire City arrived at this port last night with news from Havana to the 22d inst. The reception of President Buchanan's Mes sage, wherein he urges upon Congress the necessity of acquiring possession of Cuba, stirred up the bile of the loyalists of Havana to a wonderful extent. They intend to memorialize the Queen of Spain not to sell them out to the United States Trade was dull, and a decline in sugar is reported Senator Douglas and wife arrived in the Empire City, having tarried a week at Havana, where he was treated with marked consideration. General Scott, at last accounts, was at Key West.

A schooner, supposed to be connected with a fil bustering enterprise, left New Orleans on Monday, She was fired into by the revenue cutter, but ef

fected her escape.

The United States steamer Atlanta, of the Paraguay fleet, but which was temporarily de tached from the expedition in order to on e7 the gentlemen composing the suite of Gen. Paez to Venezuela, arrived at St. Thomas on the 12th inst. all well. Her consort, the Caledonia, having on board General Paez, has not been reported since she left this port, on the 30th of last month. She has doubtless proceeded direct to Venezuela.

The Quarantine Commissioners and the State offers met at Albany yesterday and adopted a report, which was drawn up by an engineer appointed by the federal government, in favor of locating the Quarantine establishment on the West Bank, or Old Orchard Shoals. It is estimated that an island of five acres can be constructed there at an expense of one hundred and thirty-five thousand dollars. The vote on the adoption of the proposition was unanimous, and the question of the location of the Quarantine is, therefore, regarded as settled. It is stated officially that the cost of keeping the military at Staten Island from Sept. 11 to Jan. 1, is sixty thousand dollars.

The Tammany General Committee met last night and issued a call for primary elections, to take place next Thursday evening. The inspectors for this election were chosen last night by the respective ward delegations, and where they did not agree the General Committee named the inspectors. An olive branch has been tendered to the anti-Tammany people by offering them a majority of the dela gations in each ward where they outvoted the Tammanyites at the last city election.

The British cruisers are at their old tricks. The captain of the brig Anglo-Saxon, just arrived at Boston from the coast of Africa, reports that his vessel was boarded on the 27th October by the British war steamer Ajax. The brig's papers were examined, but after about an hour's detention she was allowed to proceed.

A convention of persons interested directly in the canal navigation of this State was held at Syra cuse yesterday. About four hundred delegates were in attendance. The Convention adopted resolutions in favor of paying off the canal debt. and completing the enlargement of the canals, a already proposed, as specially as possible.

The Common Council met again yesterday after noon. They are now rapidly closing up the busi ness on hand, in order if possible to leave their successors a clear field. In the Board of Aldermen quite a number of papers were acted on. A list of one hundred and fifty Commissioners of Doods was reported and confirmed. A report on the origin of the burning of the City Hull, on the night of th great cable celebration, was presented, and ordered

to be printed. The Board of Councilmen transacted a large amount of routine business last evening. They re ceived several reports from the Aldermen, which were laid over, according to the rule, for future action. A resolution was concurred in appropriate ing \$600 for defending the Mayor and Co Council of 1857 in suits brought against them fo granting land to the Catholic Orphan Asylum. The Comptroller was directed to place the sum of \$1,000 to the credit of Mabel Loke, widow of Hugh Loke who lost his life in performing his duty as a fireman, the interest of the same to be paid to her annually. The Board concurred with the Aldermen in donating \$1,000 to the Northwestern Dispensary, \$500 to the Women's Prison Association, and \$250 to the Ladies Depository. They also concurred in appointing 150 men as Commissioners of Deeds, and adjourned to meet this afternoon at four o'clock.

The Board of Supervisors met yesterday, and adopted a report increasing the police force to 1.250 men, including detailed men. Resolutions in favor of applying to the Legislature for a modification of the law referring to the building of a new City Hall, so as to facilitate the crection of the edifice, were adopted. An ordinance re-organizing the Finance Department, by providing for a Bureau or County Expenditures, where all accounts for o against the city shall be kept, in charge of a chies clerk, aided by an auditor, bookkeeper and messen ger, was presented by Supervisor Kennedy, and laid over.

It has been ascertained that from the organize tion of the government up to June 30, 1858, the sum of \$86,376,087 36 has been paid in pensions to persons engaged in the military or naval service of the republic. And this does not include the very large sum embraced in the land grants made from the

The Board of Ten Governors met last evening and elected Charles Sutton warden of the city

prison, and transacted some other routine business The HERALD's chronological index of the leading events which have transpired outside the limits of the United States during the year of 1858 is pub lished to-day, and will be found very valuable as manual for historical reference. In the month of January the second Walker war in Nicaragua ended by the surrender of Colonel Anderson to an officer of the navy of the United States. Mexico was plunged in revolution early in the year, and its progress towards social demoralization and political degradation continues to this hour. President Comonfort was overthrown and exiled, and his successors, Zuloaga and Juarez, will soon in all proba bility be driven from the seat of power. A paricidal attempt was m ade on the life of the Emperor Napoleon, but Orsini and Pierri, who were executed for the crime, were regarded by many as political martyrs. This gave rise to temporary difficulties between the governments of France and England, which eventuated in the resignation of Lord Palmerston as Premier and the formation of the cabinet of Lord Derby. The vast empires of China and Japan have been opened to trade, civilization and the influences of Christianity, by treaties made with the United States, Russia, England and France. The wonderful achievement of submerging a telegraph cable across the Atlantic ocean, from Ireland to Newfoundland, was success fully accomplished during the year, and England and America have spoken by its means, and will again, if energy and ability can do it, hold communion through the wire. King Frederick William of Prussia, one of the most beloved of the continental sovereigns in Europe, was forced to retire from the throne by ill health, when his brother, the Prince of Prussia, took office as regent. The republics of Peru and Venezuela have passed through severe revolutionary struggles. President Baez, of St. Domingo, was hurled from the chair of office, and General Santana restored to power, after in turn ousting General Valverde. An earthquake visited the valley of Mexico, causing great loss of life and property. Mount Vesuvius was in eruption, and Donati's comet was dis cernible in 1858. Many Christians were massacred in Jeddah by fanatic Mahomedans. The rule of the

powerful East India Company was brought to an end during the twelve months now about to clapse The names of the most prominent of the ruler of the world are given in the HERALD to-day, with the dates of their accession to office.

The telegraphic chess match between New York and Philadelphia was concluded last night, when the New Yorkers resigned on the thirty-ninth

be cotton market was heavy vesterday, while the sale were restricted to about 500 bales, closing at about 11%c. for midding uplands. The total receipts at the ports have reached 1,624,000, showing an increase over those of 185; of 675, 00 bales, and 235,000 over those of 1856. The total exports amount to 820,000, against 480,000 in 1857 and 496,000 in 1856. The total increase of exports over last year amounts to 340,000 bales, and over 1855 of 324,000 bales. The receipts of flour were good for the season of the year, while common grades of State and Western were casier. Extra brands, on the other hand, were firm, and prices sustained. Southern flour was in good reques and quotations steady. Wheat was in somewhat better request, and prices steady for good qualities. Corn was rather more active, while prices were less buoyant Western mixed sold at 76%c. a 77c., new yellow Jersey at 75c. a 76c., new white at 72 4c. a 73c., and old do at 78c. Pork was heavy and lower, with sales of old mea at \$17 25 a \$17 50 and new at \$17 87%, and sales were made for March and April delivery at \$18 25; old prime was at \$13 25 and at \$13 50 for new. Lard was firm and in good demand. Sugars were quiet: the sales were confined to 400 a 500 bbis. New Orleans, part by auction at rates given in another column. Coffee was more active with sales of two cargoss of Rio, consisting of about 11,80 bags at 11%c., with 400 do. Laguayra at 1156c. Freight engagements were light, and rates unchanged.

The Squabbling Politicians of the Day-The Wants of the Country, and the Policy of the People.

Some of our newspaper cotemporaries appear to entertain the idea that there is serious danger of a bloody "affair of honor" or two between Douglas and Slidell and Douglas and Jones, as soon as possible after the arrival of the Illinois Senator at Washington. We, however, upon this score, are not in the least degree alarmed. The issue of the late terrible affair between a family representative of our New York Secretary of State and one of our city delegation in Congress satisfies us that, though our modern belligerent politicians may be disposed to shed a vast amount of ink at each other, blood-letting, involving the chances of a bullet in the skull, a hole in the lungs, a broken back or a wooden leg, is an amnsement for which they have no particular fancy. They have other fish to fry, and their lives are too valuable to be put up as a target. We no more anticipate, therefore, a shooting match at each other between Slidell and Douglas, or Douglas and Jones, than we expect to see gold dust gathered from the Russ pavement, or John Minor Botts elected President of the United

Viewed in another light, however, these constantly recurring personal squabbles between the fiery and fussy politicians of the country are not without their moral of warning and admonition to the American people. In all these vulgar personal accusations and recriminations there is too much of the seasoning of Kansas border ruffianism to be lightly disre garded. And of all the causes which, during the last twenty years, have operated to dwarf our public men into pothouse politicians, and to demoralize and brutalize their minds and their manners, nothing has been so fruitful of mis chief as this great public nuicance which may be summed up in that one word.-Kansas.

And to whom and to what cause are we in debted for this demoralizing Kansas agitation To poor Pierce and Mr. Douglas, and to their desire to win the sweet voices of the South in the Cincinnati Presidential Convention. While Clay, Calhoun, Webster, Buchanan, Silas Wright, and such of our old school of statesmen, controlled the Senate upon the great questions of the day. this Kansas experiment of "squatter sovereignty" was never dreamed of. But with the disappearance of this class of men from Congress a new set usurped their places -not a set of statesmen of even a secondary class, but a set of mousing, pettifogging and mischief-making politicians such as Douglas, Toombs, Stephens, Bright, and others of the same sort of Presidential tinkers and bellows menders.

And thus it happens that recommendation from the President, comprehending a schedule of measures and reforms, foreign and domestic. of the highest practical moment to the country, its honor, dignity, progress and prosperity, are utterly disregarded among these managing small-beer politicians of Congress, because o the superior pressure of their paltry plots and counterplots to compass by pipelaying and lobby-jobbing the nomination of this party or that party for the next Presidency. And thusit is that the last remnant of that practical states manship which controlled the counsels of the old Jacksonian democracy is limited to the administration of Mr. Buchanan. Apart from this, the old democratic party is virtually disbanded into a half dozen wrangling factious, each at the tail of some factious or sectional leader, and all intent, night and day, arst and last, upon the spoils and plunder of the succession.

On the other hand, we find some of the shining lights of the old Northern whig party, such as Everett and Winthrop, displaced and ruled out of the present Northern opposition camps by abolition agitators; and such old Southern whigs as Crittenden, Bell and W. C. Rives floating about with the driftwood of the slavery agita-

tion, while such Northern sectional demagagues as Seward and his adherents claim to hold the keys of the next Presidency, upon the broad issue of a war of extermination against the

"slave oligarchy." In the midst of all this party demoralization. disorganization and confusion, we recognize in General Scott the proper embodiment of the conservative sentiments of the great body of the opposition masses of the country, North and South. He stands in that relation towards the opposition which Mr. Buchanan occupies towards the democratic party—the most conspicuous basis for a sound and statesmanlike political organization. Esch of these men, in his sphere, is a faithful example of the good and trusty public servant. Each, in his peculiar line of duty, has pursued "the even tenor of his way," regardless of clamorous agitators or threatening politicians. And so, at this day, with that same quiet philosophy with which Mr. Buchanan manages our civil affairs, General Scott continues in the discharge of his military duties, untouched by those abounding political corruptions which have degraded the great party organizations of the country and their managing politicians to the common level of the thimble-rigging Sachems of Tammany Hall.

The country owes a debt of gratitude to General Scott which should be paid; the conservative body of the American people will find in General Scott the sort of man they will need for the crisis of 1860, and they should take him up, while yet they may gain the whip-hand over the convention jugglers of the democratic and republican camps. A for Mr. Buchanan, as he does not intend, in any event, we presume, to be a candidate for another term, he can have no other purpose in view than a clean and satisfactory record of his steward-bip to present to the country. Actuated by this high motive, and relying upon his great experience, coolness and sagacity, we may, at all events, depend upon his administration, whatever may be the fate of the demoralized and treacherous leaders and the broken battalions of the democratic camp. The quarrels between Douglas and Slidell, and Jones and Douglas, may extend to every other Jones and all the Smiths. and all the cliques and factions of the party, and the Charleston Convention may thus be broken up in a grand Tammany row; but still the administration will not be affected. Its position is fixed and secured, and it has abundantly proved that it can get on, in spite of all the factious opposition from without, and all the treacherous

opposition within, the democratic household. But all this does not cover the contingencies of 1860; for the prospects of that campaign, from all the party corruptions of the day, embrace a state of things positively fearful to contemplate. unless there shall be made a timely movement of the solid, independent body of the people in behalf of some such sound, reliable, tried, true and trusty national Union man as General Scott We are not yet aware of any other man competent to fill this position, as parties and politicians now stand, and so we stick to Gen. Scott.

Is LOTTERY ADVERTISING ILLEGAL?-A ques tion as to the legality of newspapers of this State advertising the sale of lottery tickets issued in some of the Southern States is now before the courts awaiting a decision; and at this juncture it may be well to ask whether that part of the constitution of the State of New York prohibiting newspapers from so advertising is constitutional or not. That issue, we believe, has not been raised by counsel in the cases referred to; yet it is a very important one, and its solution might settle the point at once. The constitution of this State provides in its tenth section that-

No law shall be passed abridging the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to polition the government, or any department thereof; nor shall any divorce be granted otherwise than by due judicial proceedings, nor shall any ban by due judicial proceedings, nor shall reafter be authorized, or any sale of lot lickets be allowed within this State.

The constitution of the United States provides that Congress shall pass no law "abridging the liberty of speech or of the press;" and our State constitution, in a similar spirit, declares, in section eight of the first article, that-

Every citizen may freely speak, write and publish his opinions on all rubicets, being responsible for the abuse of that right, and no law shall be passed to restrain or abridge the liberty of speech or the press.

It remains to be decided how far the inhibition to publish advertisements of lotteries legally established in other States of the Union is an abridgement of the freedom of the press, so carefully guarded by both the State constitution and the constitution of the United States. If it amounts to such abridgement, then do not sections eight and ten of the State constitution manifestly conflict? It has been declared lawful by the City Judge and the Recorder for papers to publish the fact of lotteries having been drawn, as a thing which has occurred; and why may it not be lawful to announce that the drawing will take place at a future time?

Again, as to the constitutionality of that section of our constitution which prohibits the advertising of lottery ticket sales in Southern cities. The constitution of the United States expressly declares, by article four, that "full faith and credit shall be given in each State to the public acts, records and judicial proceedings of every other State." Now it cannot be denied that the establishment of lotteries in Maryland Georgia, Louisiana, &c., by laws of the several Legislatures, are "public acts" of those States in the follest meaning of the term, and they are no cessarily entitled to full faith and credit here Can the constitution of New York declare illegal that which the Legislature of another State has not only pronounced legal, but has instituted by a public act of its Legislature, without conflict ing with article four of the constitution of the United States? The same article further provides, in the next section, that "the citizens of each State shall be entitled to all the privileges and immunities of citizens of the several States.' Does not this guarantee to the citizen of Georgia the right to advertise his lottery tickets in the State of New York as well as in Georgia? and does not any provision in our constitution which prohibits him from doing so run directly counter to the above declaration of the constitution of the United States? These are questions which the court will have to take cognizance of in deciding this case. It will perhaps have to consider also whether the comity of States does not require that acts which are lawful in one State should not be interfered with by another, where there is no general law against them.

It has been decided in this State before now that a contract made between a citizen of this State and a vender of lottery tickets was valid. How comes it, then, that the boying and selling was illegal if the contract was held to be bind log? It appears to us that the liberty of the press is materially involved in this question of the illegality of advertising lotteries, and it would be well to test the constitutionality of that provision in our State constitution which declares the act unlawful.

New Year's Day and Its Saturnalian Cote-

A good many years ago, when the fine old Knickerbocker gentlemen smoked their pipes in the summer season in front of their own stoops, and in the winter before the yule log on the tiled hearth, made to shine like the record of a good man's life, by the hands of the fine old Knickeroocker matrons, the custom of paying and receiving visits on New Year's day was a very laudable, cheerful, pleasant and agreeable institution in every way. Those stout old burghers of Peter Stuyvesant's day had business to do, and did it. There was a ship with schnapps from Rotterdam, another with the products of the Orient, hailing from Smyrns, or another from the Dutch Indies or the Coast of Guinea. It occupied a long time to discharge a vessel and sell her cargo Many pipes were smoked over small bargains; ponderous were the corporation deliberation upon an appropriation for a new pump. Ther every citizen had an individual responsibility felt it, and discharged it. The men were too busy to pay visits of form; the women were oc cupied with their bousehold duties. In fact, New Amsterdam was the model of an independent, thrifty municipality—the purest type of the res miblica. The people all knew each other; and when they exchanged their New Year's salutations it meant something. It was a decorous, orderly, grave and sober meeting of old friends. Those days have passed away forever. In

place of the transplanted Dutch colony, with its steady integrity. Hmited population and quaint honesty, we have now an immense commercial city, with all the vices as well as all the glories attendant upon a great accession of population, commerce, emigration and material wealth. Society in this city is in an inchoate state. What is called the aristocracy is split into several cliques, each as jealous of the other as can possibly be imagined. The middle stratum is again sub-divided; and the lower million, unrestrained by any competent authority, and given over to the unbridled indulgence of their passions, are little better than so many Camanches. Let any person of common sense separate himself from all prejudices, and fancy what a general holiday is likely to be in such a city as this; then he will have some idea of the orgies which usher in the happy New Year in the Empire City of the nation. The saturnalia begins at midnight of the expiring year. Gange of rowdles parade the streets, making the most unearthly noises. and levying upon respectable householders contributions for the privilege of quietly sleeping in their beds. On the next day the ladies of the household are expected to appear in full dress and receive visits. Everybody comespeople who would not dare to pay a visit at your house at any other time stumble in on New Year's day. Many ladies are embarrassed by being obliged to entertain people whom they have never seen before nor ever heard of. Refreshments, including wince and liquors, are generally provided, and Madame or Mademoiselle is expected to tender to the guest the Circean cup, which, perhaps, has already beguiled and ruined the head of the family. The merchant receives his clerks and porters; the master mechanic his journeymen and apprentices; the politician is obliged to gorge the very scum and dregs of the city slums as his constituents. As the day wears on, the effect of numerous libations begins to tell on the "gentlemen"everybody is a "gentleman" on New Year's day. The gentlemen are more demonstrative to the ladies. The gentlemen talk thickly and incoherently. The gentlemen exhale an odor alcoholic to an unpleasant degree. The gentlemen, not to put a fine point upon it, are drunk. They are emboldened to enter decent people's houses and make pigsties of them. They break the crockery, deface the plate, spoil the carpets, spiil wine upon the ladies' dresses and altogether make beasts of themselves. Among the lower million, who do not visit, the resort is the favorite grog shop, where there is generally lunch and free liquor. The result is always a fight, sometimes a riot, and occasionally a death by violence-nobody calls such a thing a murder now-a-days. All night the streets and avenues resound with drunken oaths, obscenity and the din of pandemonium -Satan lets loose all his imps. Cerberus has a recess. The parliament of Hades sits at New York. To some come with the morning the station house or the Tombs; to nearly all headaches and repentance. Many a man can trace his first step in debauchery to the New Year's cup, made fascinating by a tender at

To the uninitiated in city life it may appear that our picture of the New Year's saturnalia is overdrawn. But the best proof of he fidelity is found in the fact that the abrogation of an usage which is sanctioned by so many delicious memories and charming reminiscences-a custom made dear by being handed down from generation to generation-is seriously thought of and freely discussed among the more respectable and refined classes of the community. It has become now to be considered that the pleasures of New Year's day are neutralized by its pains, and that both should be done away with altogether. The fact is, that each clique or division of society has its own proper regulations as to the paying and receiving of visits, which may be done at any convenient time during the year. It cannot be great luxury to receive a visit from a person who comes only annually, or to be honored with a square mile of pasteboard as a delicate intimation from people that you don't care about that they are anxious to be asked to dinner. During the past three or four years, people have resorted to all sorts of subterfuges to escape the annual festival of the bores and the bored. But why would it not be better to save all the lying, and cut off the nuisance at the same time, by abolishing the present system of celebrating the day? Getting drunk, or ill with over eating, are not certainly the most appropriate exercises for the beginning of a new year. If all the people who belong to the fushionable world, and those who are struggling to get into it, shall join together in an effort to accomplish what is now talked off, we may yet live to see a quiet, orderly and enjoyable New Year's day in New York. The prospect of such a millenium is certainly remote, but it is still a

the hands of beauty. To the ladies, who are the

principal sufferers, the custom has degenerated

so far as to be a terrible bore, if not a positive

OUR APPROXORING LEGISLATURE. THE LORRY N Morron,-We understand that in preparation for the meeting of our State Legislature (republican) the lobby is in active motion, and has raised around the corners of Wall street from fifty to a bundred thousand dollars of "material and financial aid" for active operations. Thurlow Weed, doubtless, knows all about it. One of the schemes on hand is the job of the Broadway Railroad to Manhattanville, estimated as

worth a million of spolls. Another and a greater job is such a reform of our city charter as will place the whole operations of the city treasury in the hands of Mr. Comptroller Haws and the spoils managers of the republican party. Alto gether, the lobby jobs of this city, it is thought, if carried out, will cover lobby profits to the tune of five or six millions of dollors. Thurlow Weed's fees for "statistics," according to the ratio of his \$5,000 fee for his "statistics" on 'free wool," with be, perhaps, at least a bill of a cool fifty thousand. Such are the prospects of the great chief of the Albany lobby. In this view it becometh all interested outsiders to be up and doing early in the morning, as the days are now short and the nights long.

THE WORLD IN EPITOME-PROMISE OF THE COMING YEAR.—The obronology of foreign events during the past year, which we publish to-day, gives a graphic picture of the march of the world, and will be found worth preserving as a concise table of reference. It will be seen that we are able to bring down our summary of European affairs to about the middle of December, those of Mexico to the same time, South America very nearly to the first of that month, and the principal events in Asia to the middle of November. If the promise which the coming year now makes to us should be fulfilled, even these short periods will be annihilated. Before the 31st of December, 1859, the Atlantic telegraph, the Red Sea line, and the one through Australasia, will probably be in operation, and on that day we shall be able to publish in the HERALD a résumé of events in America, Europe, Asia and Australia up to noon of the day before. Science is rapidly annihilating the barriers of space for the communication of thought; and it is to be hoped that the day when every man may perform the promise of Puck, and "put a girdle round about the earth in forty minutes." is not far dis

ATTEMPT TO REORGANIZE THE CITY INSPEC TOR'S OFFICE -An attempt was made in the Board of Aldermen on Monday to pass an ordinance to reorganize the City Inspector's department, but it failed for the time being. So far from being an improvement upon the present system, it is just the reverse, being nothing more than a return to the old plan of 1849, which has been condemned with one accord by the whole people. Badly as the street cleaning is conducted now, it will be still worse if this humbug of an ordinance should pass, though we have no expectation that it will. It will probably be brought up again before the existing Board finishes its labors, and if so, we hope that it will be very positively voted down. If we are to have any alteration in the City Inspector's Department, the task had better be left for the new Board to perform. The present attempt looks like an arrangement to create more offices, with fat salaries attached, and to give more power to the new City Inspector, whoever he is to be.

THE LATEST NEWS.

AFFAIRS AT THE NATIONAL CAPITAL.

THE DIFFICULTIES BETWEEN SPAIN AND MEXICO THE LATEST NEWS FROM MEXICO IMPOSTURIS RE-SPECTING THE MINERAL WEALTH OF ARIZONA— STEAM ENGINE CONTBACTS, ETC.

Notwithstanding the news from Europe that Spain was still preparing to send more ships of war to Mexico, it is not n the least likely that war will be declared, or any hos tile interference made directly in favor of or against either of the parties now struggling for the supremacy. The wisdom and foresight of the Spanish officials in this part of the world have undoubtedly prevented a step resolved upon at Madrid which might have enveloped

the civilized world in a terrible conflict. stood, had under consideration Mexican affairs. It is said mportant intelligence has just been received from Mexico. The news published, to the effect that General Miramon had defeated Degellade at Guadlajars, and had taken that place, though coming in a telegraphic despatch from Ner Orleans to the Mexican Legation, is not believed by those

well informed of Mexican affairs. Great efforts are being made here to humbug the government and Congress, and by newspaper correspondents to delude the people, about the fabulous mineral wealth of Arizona. While it must be conceded there is no doubt that good silver and copper mines exist, which require the application of large capital and mining skill, I am areured, on the best authority, there is no evidence as yet of auriferous deposits or "washings," as in California, reward individuals without capital.

The government has not yet received information of the return of the filibuster vessel Susan, nor of the landing of

llibusters in Nicaragua. The Secretary of the Navy has awarded the contract for engines to the vessel being built at Norfolk to Murray & Hazlehurst, of Baltimore. The contract for engines for the Philadelphia vessel has not yet been awarded.

The President has issued cards for a reception on New Year's Day. The Herand's mode of ventilating the Presidential

question for 1860 puzzles greatly the politicians and Presi dential aspirants. It is said that when the Sonate occupies the new hall,

on the re-assembling of Congress, all persons not members of Congress or officers at the Capital will be excluded. This will be distressing to ex-members and others, so many of whom are lebby men. It is thought, however, this rigid but wholesome rule may be relaxed after a row days.

THE CENTRAL NEWSPAPER DESPATOR.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28, 1858. Prominent filibusters deny having any intelligence to the effect that the schooner Susan had returned from Ni carngua unable to land her emigrants, and that she was cruleing off the river Colorado; but it is understood that the government has despatches stating that the Susan has returned to Pensucola, having landed her crew in Nicara-

The correspondence between Commodore Paulding and the authorities of Nicaragua has recently been made public. Commodore Paulding, on the 8th day of May last addressed a letter to the Secretary of the Navy, covering documents from General Jerez and the President of Nicaragua, relieving him "from all blame or responsibility in landing at Punta Arenas for the errest of William Walker and his lawiess followers." The first is dated at Leon, March 29, 1858, saying that Com. Paulding's conduct was received by the government of that republic and by all the people of Nicaragua, with much satisfact tion, "because it expressed a signal rebuke of an agres sion so bold and unjust on the rights and territory of Ni caragna." Jeres says that thanks are due, and are ten dered, for the motives by which Com. Paulding was actu ated. The second letter is dated at Managon, March SI 1858, written by direction of the President of Nicaracus in which it is said that "William Walker, with a mot of highwaymen, invaded Nicaragua, for the purpose of tramping under foot the principles of humanity and just tice on which public law reposes." The governmen had commissioned Jeron to express to Commodore Paulding " the most profound gratisade for an act so illustrious Humanity and civilization have already approved the udgment most honorable to you, and posterity will repeat this judgment more elequently and more admiringly. It is history alone that judges of the actions of m

with a full appreciation of their value " The bill recently reported by Senator Davis, from th Committee on Milliary Affairs, to promote the efficiency of the army and marine corps by retiring disabled and infirm officers, makes anaple provision for their support. Not less than five, nor more than nine commissioned officers are, as a Board, to decide on incapacity, whether volumtarily urged by the officer or in the expressed opinion of the President. If the inability proceeds from vicious habits, the case is to be investigated by a court

martial. The aggregate amount paid for pensions in each State

and Territory, from the organization of the present gov

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tionary war. 45,924,832 95
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To widows and orphans (five years haif pay). 3,367,218 58 pay) ... 3,367,218 58
At the Treasury but not easily apportionable among the several classes ... 1,128,303 76
To invalids and widows and orphans of the

Our Washington Correspo WASHINGTON, Dec. 26, 185 The Political Meeting in this City-The New York Politi cians-What They Attempted to Do.

You have already published the "treaty" entered into by the Sachems of Tammany and Mr. Schell, under which barmony is to be restored amongst your city democracy, by the simple method of converting the outside brethree the "regulars," and such amail deer-and if they will not be converted, starving them out, excluding them from fe deral pap and bestowing the aforesaid pabulum wholly upon those meritorious patriots who glory in the "coal bole," swill at the "Pewter Mug," support regular nomination and say their prayers at St. Tammany. But treaties are un-certain documents, as we know. There is the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, which the British Tammany its insust means that they shall continue to do as they please, whilst we must content ourselves by biling our thumbs. Then there is the Case-Yrisarri treaty, which bas disappeared mysteriously, either in Lake Nicaragua, the Golf of Mexico, or some one's breeches pocket. Need we speak of that treaty, which Lord Malmesbury took it for granted either Sir Gore Ouseley or Lord Napor had communicated to Gen. Cara, upon the subject of Central America, but which, it turns out, Sir Gore forget to show, and carried it off, unseen, on board the Valorous. A treaty, therefore, is a shippery customer, and after all, the Tammany treaty may leave matters just where they were, resulting in nothing but kicking Scheil into the organization at the perit of his office, but carrying with him nees of his army—that is, if he ever had an army. This treaty, however, may be different in its results from what is anticipated. The moon may be made of green cheese, and the Sachems may be all patriots. These, to be sure, are rather violent suppositions, but time will determ ine whether some of them are true or not. For my part I firmly believe that all politicians are patriots, and I as firmly am convinced that from this time forward the most perfect harmony, the most brotherly love, will exist amongst all the democracy of New York city. If it should turn out other wise, then I am grievously and wretchedly mustaken.

After the treaty in quention had been signed, and whilst the sachems were smoking the calcurat of peace in the presence of their "Great Father," Mr. Buchanan, one of the braves thought it a fitting time to unburthen his mond and annihitate the Histarts, and he therefore intimated to the President that there was great need in your city of a good democratic newspaper—that the party suffered exceedingly in consequence of the support the Histarts gave the administration, and that it was his private opinion the Histarts should be cut, and a democratic paper bus disappeared mysteriously, either in Lake Nice

of a good democratic newspaper—that the party suffice exceedingly in consequence of the support the Heat gave the administration, and that it was his private opinition Heat should be cut, and a democratic paper established (after the manner of the Washington Union that the state of the washington Union that the state of the washington the post of the post of the past of the washington that the past of the washington the post of the past of the past of the washington that the past of the washington that the past of the washington that the past of the past of the washington that the past of the support that the party sufficient that the established (not the matter of the washing of the Post Of-fice, the Custom House and the Assay Office, the cities being attended to by Mr. Marahai Kynders' staff, and the ship news correctly elaborated in the Surveyor',

office.

Mr. Buchanan, when the speaker had finished, replied that the administration had no need to establish any paper in New York. That Mr. Bennett was be frieed, and gave him able and valuable support in the Hsrain, which was all the more efficient because the Harain was an independent journal, and its support was not purchased. Mr. Buchanan continued, that he felt grateful to Mr. Bennett for the support he gave his soministration, and he regarded it as of more value than all the party press put together.

gether.

The Sachema looked aghast, pulled vigorously at their pipes, and, like shifful politicians, immediately turned the The truth is, that Mr. Buchauan's ideas of the value New York Resalts are very similar to those expressed by the present Emperor of France. Louis Napoleon remarked recently to a friend that he never road the Fronch papers, for he of course knew what was in them, but he read attentively always the London Times. If, said be, I find that the Times atheres to an idea or to a certain line of attentively always the London T met. If, and he, I find that the Taues atheres to an idea or to a certain fine of argument for a week, then I regard it as being really the voice of the people of England, and I am pretty certain to find it re echoed throughout the continent. Hew en almost y true. The party and stipendacy press are more sycophantic countiers or servile toation. They write to piesse their party or their employers. Public opinion never finds a place in their columns enless it happens to be favorable to their masters. But an independent press, such as the New York Health is above and beyond all such miserable considerations. It is the embodiment of public opinion, and as such Mr. Suchains has a correct estimate of its character, and a just appreciation of the value of its support.

THE NEW LOCATION FOR QUARANTINE—COST OF THE TROOPS AT STATEN ISLAND—PROCREDINGS OF THE CANAL BOARD.

The Commissioners of Quarantine met the State officers

at the Executive Chamber this morning, and presented their report on the removal of Quarantine. Captain Benham, who was appointed by the general government to survey and report upon the feasibility and expense of the construction of an island on the West Bank or Old Orchard Sheal, reported strangly in favor of the latter. His surveys and estimates show that an island of five acres can be constructed on Old Orchard Shoal, fit for all the purposes of a Quarantine, at a cost of \$135,000. The Commissioners recommend the construction of this

sland, and the immediate erection thereon of suitable quarantine buildings. The State officers, by a unanimous vote, adopted the re-

port of the Commissioners. This settles the question of location finally. It is understood that the government of the United States will, when the Quarantine is established at Orchard

Shoal, remove the public stores to Staten Island. show that the cost of maintaining the troops at States Island from the 11th of September to the lat of January will be sixty thousand dollars.

The Canal Board to day extended the time for the pay ment of the indebtedness on the bonds given by the Sack ett's Harbor or Reciprocity Bank as security for the Canal

A resolution being before the Board, declaring a certain contract void because made with a clerk in the office of collector of canal tolls, a remonstrance was presented by the contractor, on the ground that the State by any legislative or State officer was in conflict with section three, article seven, of the amended constitution which declares that all contracts shall be given to the lowest bidder. The resolution was withdraw dorsing the presumed unconstitutionality of the law. The consideration of Mr. Ruggles' petition to Congress for

aid in improvements at Oswego and Buffale was postponed

The New York State Canal Convention.

The Convention met in Voorhees Hall at noon. About 400 delegates were present. A. H. Hovey, of Onoudage, was chosen permanent President, with a number of Vice Presidents and Secretaries. The Chairman made a brist speech, when he appointed a Business Committee. A let-ter was read from Canal Auditor Bonton, and referred to the Business Committee. After an unimportant debate the Convention adjourned until 3 P. M.

A committee was appointed to wait on ox-Governor Hunt and invite him to a seat in the Convention.

Mr. L. P. Crocker, of Oswego, offered a resolution that

Northern Pacific Railroad is a inclimate subject for the consideration of the Convention. A long debate ensued upon this. The resolution was finally laid on the table.

The Business Committee not being ready to report at ave o'clerk, the Convention adjourned until 7 P. M. The Convention was called to order at seven o'cleck.

The Business Committee offered the following -Resolved. That it is the duty of the Legislature, during the approaching session, to enact a law revolding for the submission to the people of the question of the authorizing